

City of Cambridge
Regular City Council Meeting
Monday August 6, 2018
6:30 P.M.

Pursuant to notice posted in the City Office and published in the Cambridge Clarion, Thursday, July 26, 2018 the Cambridge City Council met for regular meeting convening at 6:30 P.M. Present were Mayor Mark Harpst, City Council Members Tom McCarville, Keith Luedders, Jeff Ommert and Vernita Saylor. Absent were City Council Members Derek Raburn and Tony Groshong. City Staff present were Utility Supervisor David Houghtelling, City Clerk/Treasurer Kandra Kinne, City Attorney Lisa Shifflet, Recreation Director Staci Pick, Sewer Plant Operator Greg Howerter, Water Operator Mike Tomlin, Office Assistance Crystal Boucher and Economic Development Director Monica Lueking. Visitors present for all or a portion of the meeting were Richard Colwell, Jolene Miller for the Cambridge Clarion, Judy McCune Manager of the Cobblestone Hotel, Cindy Howerter, Jim and Holly Mollhoff, and Morgan Farquhar. Mayor Harpst opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Harpst announced the open meeting law is posted on the east wall of the meeting room and available for public inspection.

Appointments/Communications/Resolutions:

- A. Street Superintendent.** The Cambridge City Council received notice from Miller and Associates that the City Street Superintendent would be changing for the City of Cambridge. Jeff Ommert stated the motion, seconded by Vernita Saylor, to approve Gary Dicenta of Miller and Associates as City of Cambridge Street Superintendent January 1, 2018 until July 31, 2018 and Tyson Bardsley of Miller and Associates as City of Cambridge Street Superintendent beginning August 1, 2018 until December 31, 2018. On roll call vote Tom McCarville, Keith Luedders, Jeff Ommert and Vernita Saylor voted yes, none voted no, and Derek Raburn and Tony Groshong were absent and not voting. Motion carried unanimously by City Council Members present.
- B. Appoint an NCG Audit Clerk.** The City Council received notice that they need to appoint an NCG Audit Clerk for the Nebraska Cooperative Governments for the City of Cambridge. Vernita Saylor stated the motion, seconded by Tom McCarville, to approve Kandra Kinne as the Audit Clerk for the City of Cambridge with Nebraska Cooperative Governments. On roll call vote Keith Luedders, Jeff Ommert, Vernita Saylor and Tom McCarville voted yes, none voted no and Derek Raburn and Tony Groshong were absent and not voting. Motion carried unanimously by City Council Members present.

New Business:

- A. Discussion Lodging Tax.** Judy McCune was present for the Cobblestone Hotel. Judy discussed current lodging taxes that apply in Cambridge and discussed adding a City Occupancy Tax. Judy provided the Hotel Room Rate with existing city sales tax, state sales tax and Lodging tax. Judy recommended that the City Council consider a tax. She said the City of McCook recently passed a 4% tax and recommended that Cambridge stay under that tax rate and suggested a 2.5% tax. Judy said Cambridge still needs to compete with McCook lodging facilities and there are plans to build a Cobblestone Hotel in Holdrege NE. The revenue could be earmarked for a specific need or project. Judy said Cambridge had a lot to offer and is a progressive community. Judy suggested the funds could go toward the downtown revitalization project, fire barn or swimming pool projects. Judy estimated the

City would receive about \$10,000 annually in revenue. Lisa Shifflet and Kandra Kinne would work on a proposal and contact the other lodging facilities in Cambridge also. The item would be discussed at a later meeting.

- B. **Baseball Program Report.** Staci Pick was present to give the City Council a report on the baseball season. Staci reported the program had a good year, there were no complaints, K-2 team lost in the boy's tournament, but did well. Staci thanked Dave and the City Staff for all their help with the fields. Staci suggested the City start advertising for a new director and offer to help train the new person. Jeff Ommert stated the motion, seconded by Vernita Saylor to pay Staci and additional \$600.00 in appreciation for the work she has done for the City of Cambridge as Recreation Director. On roll call vote Jeff Ommert, Vernita Saylor, Tom McCarville and Keith Luedders voted yes none voted no and Derek Raburn and Tony Groshong were absent and not voting. Motion carried unanimously by City Council Members present.
- C. **Ice Skating Rink Proposal.** Richard Colwell was present to discuss and idea to turn the small ball field into a skating rink during the winter months. Richard said he would like to address the students at school for their support and help with the project. He recommended building a berm around the ball field during the winter months and adding water to make an ice skating rink. The City Council asked Mr. Colwell to present his idea to the Park Board.
- D. **West Central Nebraska Development District Nuisance Abatement Program.** The City Council received notice that West Central Nebraska Development District was unable to find a contractor to make the repairs at 412 Neville Street. The City Council discussed options to find a local contractor or have City staff do the repairs.
- E. **Health Insurance Proposal.** Kandra presented a health insurance proposal due to the rate increase that will be effective September 1, 2018. Kandra proposed a 10% premium co-pay by employees and a salary adjustment. The City Council discussed the proposal and decided that they would visit the insurance premiums next year. Keith Luedders stated the motion, seconded by Tom McCarville, to approve the group health insurance proposal of 10% co-pay of the premium by employees with a salary adjustment. On roll call vote Vernita Saylor, Tom McCarville, Keith Luedders and Jeff Ommert voted yes, none voted no, and Derek Raburn and Tony Groshong were absent and not voting. Motion carried unanimously by City Council Members present.

Reports of Officers/Boards/Committees.

- A. **Miller and Associates Report.** 1. Swimming Pool Project. Morgan Farquhar was present to discuss the planning of the swimming pool project and recommended that the City provide updates on the progress and the proposed project. City Council and staff discuss the stage of planning the project is in and said information will be provided in the near future. 2. Downtown Revitalization – Mayor Harpst reported that the project is close to review by City Staff. 3. 5 and 10 year planning session. The City Council set a planning meeting or September 25th.
- B. **Economic Development Report.** Economic Development Director Monica Leuking said she is reviewing projects and activities by the Economic Development Board and getting up to speed on existing projects. Mayor Harpst discussed the 2035 Plan and discussed corrections for Ordinance Number in the plan and table of contents

needed corrected. The item will be on the agenda for the next regular meeting to approve the Ballot and Resolution for the November election.

- C. Ambulance/Fire.** No Report
- D. Planning Commission Reports.** The Planning Commission will meet Wednesday August 8th.
- E. Utility Supervisor Report.** Mayor Harpst commended City Staff on receiving a Routine Sanitary Survey with no deficiencies from the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Dave reported he is spraying for mosquitos and treating standing water. There were two lighting strikes on city buildings. Tom Quinn will be moving in October and resigning from working at the Cemetery. Staff will be attending water operator training in McCook August 7th. BIC Water line washed out around the water main after recent storms. Staff mowed the property at 914 Niobrara Street, the property owner did not respond to letters sent by the City.
- F. City Clerk/Treasurer Reports.** Kandra reported receipt of a liquor license application from Cambridge Lanes and the public hearing will be at the next regular meeting, a lien release was sent for Housing Rehab Loan CAM-HR-12 after the property owner paid in full. The City has \$58,000 in housing rehab and can rehab two homes. Kandra will advertise asking for applicants. Kandra reported the draft budget is complete. City Council set the budget workshop for August 28th. A committee is working toward grants to improve the Tim Patterson Horse Arena. BC Graphics have applied for a conditional use permit application and the City Council will hold a public hearing at their next regular meeting. Line Loss reports were prepared for the City Council for July and August utility billing. Kandra reported the increases in Harvest Meadows property valuations. The Citizen Advisory Committee will meet August 13th and report to the City Council at the next regular meeting. Kandra sent 5 letters for mowing and weed removal.

Public Comment. There were no public Comments

Consent Agenda – Minutes of July 16, 2018 and Claims Report. Vernita Saylor, stated the motion, seconded by Jeff Ommert, to approve the consent agenda items. On roll call vote Tom McCarville, Keith Luedders, Jeff Ommert and Vernita Saylor voted yes, none voted no, and Derek Raburn and Tony Groshong were absent and not voting. Motion carried unanimously by City Council Members present for the following: A. Minutes of July 16, 2018 and B. Claims report as follows:

City of Cambridge			
Claims Report			
6-Aug-18			
Check No.	Vendor/For	Amount	Dept.
			Totals
	Combined Utility:		
30105-30111	Payroll	8,581.18	
30112	Twin Valleys Public Power District, Purchased power	266,095.44	
30113	BIC, Purchased Water	7,580.10	
30114	Employee Flex Spending	422.63	
30115	Cambridge Post Office, Postage	247.70	

30116-30121	Payroll	7,971.08	
30122	Ag Valley, Fuel	304.20	
30123	Cambridge General Store, Supplies	84.91	
30124	Cambridge Super Market, Supplies	6.64	
30125	void		
30126	Cambridge Telephone, Utility	720.13	
30127	Utility Customer Refund credit on account	3.28	
30128	Dutton-Lainson, Supplies	296.98	
30129	Eakes Office, Supplies	1,800.74	
30130	Faw Garage, Inc., Repairs	111.07	
30131	void		
30132	Homtown Leasing, Copier Lease	436.20	
30133	Municipal Supply, Supplies	76.48	
30134	Nebraska Interactive, Credit Card Machine	257.70	
30135	Nebraska Public Health, Water Testing	30.00	
30136	NMC Exchange, Repairs	93.07	
30137	River Valley Services, Repairs	103.50	
30138	Schaben Sanitation, Haul Roll Off	440.91	
30139	Verizon Wireless, Cell Phones	177.42	
30140	Western Area Power Administration, Purchased Power	4,910.94	
30141	Ommert Tech, Computer Lease	333.61	
30142	Paper Tiger Shredding, dispose paper	40.00	
30143	Sewer Improvement, Transfer	1,000.00	
30144	Water System Extension, Transfer	1,083.33	
ACH	IRS, Federal With holdings	2,854.31	
ACH	IRS, Federal With holdings	28.68	
ACH	City of Cambridge, Utility	2,691.90	
ACH	Nebr. Dept. Revenue, State With holdings	932.74	
ACH	IRS, Federal With holdings	2,647.79	312,364.66
	Security Deposit Account:		
1961	Security Deposit Refund	300.00	300.00
	City Account (General Fund)		
45981-45996	Payroll	5,717.62	
45997	Maria Downer, Library Supplies	38.50	
45998	City of Cambridge, KENO Account Checks	21.70	
45999-46029	Payroll	10791.21	
46030	void		
46031	Ag Valley, Fuel	827.37	
46032	Ambulance Check Card Account, Dues to NEMSA	12.00	
46033	Baker & Taylor, Books	776.36	
46034	Bernie Jones Auto, Repairs	594.31	

46035	Bound Tree Medical, Supplies	163.62	
46036	Cambridge Chamber, Chamber Bucks	50.00	
46037	Cambridge Clarion, Library Supplies	32.60	
46038	Cambridge General Store, Supplies	395.25	
46039	Cambridge Supermarket, Supplies	3.75	
46040	void		
46041	Cambridge Telephone, Utility	595.78	
46042	D & N Lammel's, Repairs	229.22	
46043	DEMCO, Supplies	339.44	
46044	Eakes Office, Supplies	314.28	
46045	Eakes Office, Supplies	132.57	
46046	Extreme Ag, Chemicals	305.00	
46047	Fire/Ambulance Sinking Fund, Transfer	1507.25	
46048	Frontier, Police Phone	45.37	
46049	Furnas County Treasurer, Inter-Local Law Contract	4808.00	
46050	Gale, Library Books	118.44	
46051	League Of Nebraska Municipalities, Dues	1749.00	
46052	Maria Downer, Library Supplies	29.21	
46053	Mark's Pharmacy, Supplies	7.58	
46054	Matheson Tri-Gas, Oxygen	99.04	
46055	Miller & Associates, Fees	3100.00	
46056	Mousel, Brooks, Schneider, Attorney Fees	660.00	
46057	Southwest Farm & Auto, Repairs	16.02	
46058	Van Diest Supply Company, Chemicals	4675	
46059	Verizon Wireless, Cell Phones	99.17	
46060	West Central Nebraska Development District, Nuisance Abate	1125.00	
46061	Ommert Tech, Computer Lease	91.92	
46062	Staci Pick, Recreation Director	2500.00	
ACH	IRS, Federal With holdings	1339.85	
ACH	City of Cambridge, Utility	8261.62	
ACH	Nebr. Dept. Revenue, State With holdings	304.34	
ACH	IRS, Federal With holdings	1125.71	
ACH	Eakes Office, Copier Lease	146.84	
ACH	IRS, Federal With holdings	1166.04	54,315.98
	LB840 Economic Development		
3877	Payroll	642.44	
3878	Cambridge Telephone, Utility	46.03	
3879	Eakes Office Supplies	4.48	
3880	Lockenour-Jones Mortuary, Façade Grant	4050.00	
3881	Melissa Jackson, Promotions	50.00	
3882	Nebraska Life Publishing, Advertising	100.00	

ACH	IRS, Federal With holdings	107.42	5000.37
	Sewer Improvement Fund		
1003	Iowa Pump Works, Repairs	15462.69	15462.69
	Cambridge Emergency Medical Ambulance Check Card:		
ACH	NEMSA, Dues	12.00	12.00
	Employee Health:		
871	Employee Deductible	2.45	2.45
	Total	387,458.15	387,458.15

Adjournment. The next regular City Council Meeting is Monday August 20, 2018. Tom McCarville stated the motion, seconded by Vernita Saylor, to adjourn at 9:15 P.M. On roll call vote Keith Luedders, Jeff Ommert, Vernita Saylor and Tom McCarville voted yes, none voted no and Derek Raburn and Tony Groshong were absent and not voting. Motion carried unanimously by City Council Members present.

Attest: _____
Kandra J. Kinne, City Clerk/Treasurer

Mark Harpst, Mayor